



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on January 21, 2004, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

☒ with sufficient postage as first class mail

37 C.F.R. § 1.10

☐ as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No.

Allie Barrett

PATENT

Applicant: Froman et al.

Serial No.: 10/714,320

Filed: November 14, 2003

Title: VIRTUAL DIAL IRRIGATION  
CONTROLLER

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Atty Docket No.: 1506-315

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant(s) submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware that may be considered in connection with the above-referenced patent application. Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "material" to Applicants' invention as that term is currently defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (37 CFR § 1.97(h)).

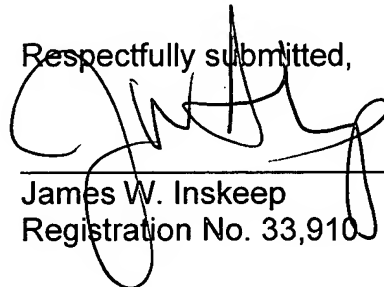
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other relevant information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

A Patent and Trademark Office Form 1449 listing each of these informational items is enclosed along with a copy of each item.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action issued on the merits of the subject application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). In the event that a first Office Action has been mailed to the undersigned prior to the mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the applicable fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-2809. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Jan 16, 2004  
Date

Respectfully submitted,  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James W. Inskeep  
Registration No. 33,910

**INSKEEP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP, INC.**  
1225 W. 190<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 205  
Gardena, CA 90248  
Telephone: 310.217.6220  
Facsimile: 310.327.0282

*Customer No. 37,374*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	2
-------	---	----	---

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/714,320
Filing Date	November 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Froman et al.
Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	1506-315

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

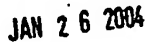
[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*



Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

2

of

2

Application Number

**Complete if Known**

10/714,320

Filing Date

November 14, 2003

**First Named Inventor**

Froman et al.

## Art Unit

Unknown

Examiner Name

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

1506-315

Examine  
Initials\*

Cite  
No.<sup>1</sup>

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

 $T^2$ 

B1

THE TORO COMPANY, RJ4-Plus/RJ6-Plus, Indoor Dual Program Timer With Master Valve/Pump Start & Water Budgeting, Instruction Manual, 2001, Pgs. 1-11, Toro, Riverside, California

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

***If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.***